

Anti-Money Laundering Seminar

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Overview of JFIU



Overview of JFIU

Joint Financial Intelligence Unit ("JFIU")

- Set up in 1989
- Jointly operated by HKPF & C&E (44 staff)
- Office: At the Police Headquarters



Overview of JFIU

Joint Financial Intelligence Unit ("JFIU")

- Major Responsibilities (1):
 - Receive
 - Analyze
 - Disseminate of Suspicious Transaction Report ('STR')
- Major Responsibilities (2):
 - Study the trend used by the criminals in ML/TF
 - Outreaching and training







- 1. Drug Trafficking (Recovery of Proceeds) Ordinance, Cap. 405 ('DTROP')
- 2. Organized and Serious Crimes Ordinance, Cap. 455 ('OSCO')
- 3. United Nations (Anti Terrorism Measures) Ordinance, Cap. 575) ('UNATMO')



Money Laundering Offence s.25 of DTROP/OSCO

- Knowing / Having reasonable grounds to believe that any property represents proceeds of drug trafficking or proceeds of indictable offence, AND
- Deals with that property
- MAX PENALTY:
 - Fine of HK\$ 5,000,000 AND
 - Imprisonment for 14 years



Legal Obligations to make STR s.25A(1) of DTROP/OSCO

- Knows or Suspects any property represents proceeds of crime
- Shall make a report to an authorized officer(i.e.JFIU)
- MAX PENALTY:
 - Fine of HK\$ 50,000 AND
 - Imprisonment for 3 months



Statutory Defence to ML s.25A(2) of DTROP/OSCO

- if a person deals with property and that person has a defence to ML, provided if:
 - (1) STR is made <u>BEFORE</u> the act OR
 - (2) STR is made <u>AFTER</u> the act



Statutory Protection on Disclosure s.25A(3) of DTROP/OSCO

- shall <u>not</u> be treated as a breach of any conditions imposed by contract or by any enactment, rule of conduct or other provision
- shall <u>not</u> render the person who made it <u>liable</u> in damages for any loss



Offence to Disclose the Disclosure s.25A(5) of DTROP/OSCO

- Tipping Off
- Any matter likely to prejudice an investigation
- MAX PENALTY:
 - Fine of HK\$ 500,000 AND
 - Imprisonment for 3 years





The "SAFE" Approach



The "SAFE" Approach

- How to Identify a Suspicious Transaction?
 - Screen
 - Ask
 - Find
 - Evaluate





- Screen the customers' background and transactions
- Ask appropriate questions
- Find out records for review





Evaluate

- Ask yourself:
 - All steps in 'Screen', 'Ask', 'Find' were completed?
 - Is the transaction suspicious?
 - Having considered all circumstances, can the suspicious be eliminated?
 - If conclusion = genuinely suspicious
 - → File an STR



"SAFE"

Could You Do More? Case Example (1)

- ➤ Local bank received info from overseas bank that a fraudulent transaction in US currency deposited into an A/C.
- ➤ Local bank filed STR immediately
- ➤ Local bank did not inquire the overseas bank for any details
- > SAFE Approach Missing



"SAFE"

Case Example (2):

- ►A/C holder unemployed
- Frequent small amount of cash deposits \$100 to \$500 on daily basis, inconsistent with A/C holder profile
- > A/C maintains low balance before or after the transactions
- ➤ Cash deposits or ATM Transfers
- ➤ ATM Cash withdrawals
- ➤ Repository only no other uses
- ➤ Loan Sharking





Substandard STRs

- ➤"Large Cash Transaction"
- ➤"Frequent or multiple remittances by same person"
- ➤"Related to fraudulent transaction"



Reporting of STR



Feedback from JFIU:

- Acknowledgement of Receipt
 - File ref.
 - Details of contact person
- Receive of Consent / No Consent Letter
- Results:
 - Arrests / Prosecutions / Conviction of money laundering offence



Reporting of STR



How to file a STR?

- E-reporting system (Suspicious Transaction Report And Management System)
- Email
- Fax
- Post
- Verbal (Urgent only follow up by hardcopy)

Website: http://www.jfiu.gov.hk





Thank You

